



Idaho Carbon Sequestration Advisory Committee Meeting Highlights

Tuesday, March 15, 2005

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- Meeting facilitated by Tony Bennett, Idaho Soil Conservation Commission (ISCC)
- David Shropshire, Idaho National Laboratory (INL), presented a Phase II Update Report on the Big Sky Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership's (BSRCSP) activities. The presentation will soon be available on the Commission's website and may be accessed by accessing "carbon sequestration" from the programs menu
- Russ Zenner, farmer and member of the Pacific Northwest Direct Seed Association was not able to attend. Tony Bennett shared information provided by Todd Scholz (Pea and Lentil Association) regarding individuals contracting and leasing land maintained under direct seeding for carbon sequestration.
- Don Buehler, farmer and new committee member from Malad, Idaho, shared his experience submitting basic resource data from his ranch to the National Carbon Offset Coalition (NCOC) for possible trading activity. Buehler also participated in a recent meeting in Post Falls regarding carbon sequestration in Forestry.
- Brian Kummett, Nez Perce Tributary, provided an update of their carbon sequestration projects and their quest to complete a successful trade.
- Bob Sojka, ARS Kimberly, detailed their work with carbon sequestration research involving irrigated lands in southern Idaho. The following website includes carbon related studies: <http://kimberly.ars.usda.gov>
- Dr. Jim Baker, ISDA, presented a progress report on the agricultural values used in the EPA carbon inventory model and use of the Soils Condition Indices. He discussed the possible development of another model with Idaho crop data factored into the process. Baker is working with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) staff members Rod Ryan, a soil scientist and Ralph Fisher, an agronomist. Jodi Johnson-Maynard, U of I will also be working with Baker.
- Richard "Tiny" Furman, Idaho Department of Lands (IDL), provided an update pertaining to his evaluation of the values used in the EPA model for Forestry. Furman reported trouble connecting with other committee members that are able to assist him. He indicated he also needs further information about the Forestry model. Shropshire shared contact information for an individual that may be able to aid Furman in his evaluation. Mann also offered to establish contacts at the U of I that would afford Furman the forestry expertise he seeks

- Furman indicated the following website contained useful carbon sequestration information from Canada: www.carbon.cfs.nrcan.gc.ca/index_e.html
- Future challenges discussed included the following topics:
 - Both a geologist and economist should be recruited for participation in the Committee
 - The process of replacing members and adding new members to the Committee needs to move forward in order to broaden the scope of the Committee's expertise and experience
 - Research on other sectors (ie: transportation, energy) needed for evaluation of the data used for the state's carbon inventory
 - Information on carbon sequestration field work (agricultural sector) needs to be compiled
 - Continued coordination with the Pacific Northwest Direct Seed Association and Pea and Lentil Association to evaluate and learn from their carbon trading experience
- The next ICSAC meeting will be held in Idaho Falls and scheduled for late July, early August. Committee members expressed an interest in involving the BSRCS and the NCOC in the upcoming meeting.